

**WILLAND MAGAZINE  
January & February  
2019**



**LOCAL NEWS : LOCAL EVENTS : LOCAL CONTACTS**

**Delivered Free to Every Home**

Happy New Year!

### **CULM VALLEY METHODIST CHURCH**

By the time you read this the Christmas festivities will be over, but you will be pleased to know the village Carol Service was a joyful occasion. A big "Thank you" to everyone who took part and to all the helpers on the evening. Your generous donations of £283 have been given to CHAT.

We have our regular coffee mornings and lunches to look forward to.

Please join us at any time. Our Sunday services are all at 10.30am and are led either by our own minister or a lay preacher. Our coffee mornings are on the first Friday of each month from 10.30am and our lunches on the third Friday of each month from 12noon. Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> January is the date for the next **Prospects** Worship from 3pm. This is a time specifically for learning disabled people to share in worship and activities and have fellowship one with another. If you would like more details, please contact Rev Paul Booth or just turn up on the day. You will receive a very warm welcome. We wish you all a Peaceful and Happy New Year. **Joan Greet**

### **MOVE IT OR LOSE IT! - NEW EXERCISE CLASS AT WILLAND VILLAGE HALL TUES 2 - 3PM**

"I don't need exercise classes - I walk every day!" Whilst walking is a great activity, it isn't working all the muscles particularly those of the upper body which are crucial for independent living. It's never too late to start exercising.

Social interaction is a great way of dispelling 'the blues' and loneliness and it's lovely to see people meeting both new and familiar faces and enjoying exercising together. It also encourages people to do their own prescribed exercises at home.

All our exercises can be done seated, standing with chair support or unsupported and are NHS endorsed. We use resistance bands and balls to work our upper and lower body muscles.

Balance is vital as we age - for walking, climbing stairs, getting on and off buses, standing in queues so that is an important part of the session.

If you would like to maintain your body for later in life, Move it or Lose it might be just the way to do it! **Sue Jackson 01392 882103/07939717212 or email [sue.jackson@moveitorloseit.co.uk](mailto:sue.jackson@moveitorloseit.co.uk)**

### **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

I am writing this in December as the Christmas lights have just gone up – a more challenging event than normal as the traffic lights along Silver Street threatened to cause disruption. But finally all 12 are up and glowing brightly, so long as the timers hold! The Parish Council are hugely grateful to those that sponsor the Christmas lights and give their thanks to Pencarrie, Rayda Plastics and Willand Community Composting Group for their generous

donations this year. It is still open for donations towards this years lights until the end of March 2019 – anything received after that will go towards next years! **Kate Taylor Clerk to the Parish Council**



## **WILLAND** FOLK DANCE CLUB

Our 2018-2019 season of Club Nights and Saturday Dances is now well underway and have been supported by dancers from as far afield as Cheshire. When people are visiting families in our lovely county of Devon they look on our website to see if we have a Dance or Club Night coming up – and they always go away enriched with our hospitality and enthusiasm for

our dancing. So why not come along and try us out. You are always assured of a friendly reception and it is good way to have fun exercising, let your hair down and stretch the muscles – even the 'chuckle muscles!'.

We will be holding our usual New Years Dance (31<sup>st</sup> December – 8.00pm till 12.30am) with music from Chris Toyne's Big Band and Jane Thomas and Simon Maplesden calling and a complimentary drink at midnight. This is always an excellent way to start the New Year with a bit of entertainment thrown in.

Our first Club Night for 2019 will be on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> January so why not come along and burn off all those calories from Christmas. No experience is necessary as we will be continuing our half-hour tuition sessions at 7.30 pm before each Club Night. For more details visit the

**[willandfolkdanceclub.co.uk](http://willandfolkdanceclub.co.uk). Marilyn Broom – Chairperson**

### **WILLAND GARDEN CLUB**

At our November meeting Mr Terry Underhill gave a talk about The Winter Garden, with many excellent slides. It was amazing to see how many blooms are still colouring our gardens through the cold season and into Spring.

Our team came second in the Pottinger Quiz in October. This annual quiz between neighbouring garden clubs makes us pit our wits (or lack of them) against other clubs and gives us all the opportunity to socialise and enjoy some lovely refreshments. We will be holding it here in Willand in 2019.

We are rather short of members now and would love to see more people at our monthly meetings - 2nd Wednesday each month, 7.30pm in the Village Hall. We do not, however, meet in January and February. Mark up your 2019 diaries and come and join us.

On the 12th Dec, we held our AGM plus the exchange of Christmas presents, mince pies, wine and a quiz. We will tell you more about that next time.

For more details about the Garden Club, please do not hesitate to contact me on **01884 33828** or **email me on [cbarwa@mail.com](mailto:cbarwa@mail.com)**. We meet on the second Wednesday of the month from March to December, excluding June and August. Our membership fee is only £5 a year. This includes all meetings, refreshments and a subsidised annual club meal, so is very good value.

**Carol Allan Garden Club Secretary Jennifer Catley Show Secretary**

## WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR - COMMENT & REPORT

I ended my entry for the November/December magazine with these words *"Remember the best response is "How can I help". It is so much better than "What's in it for me."* It has been really heartening to see those in the village who have stepped forward and fall into the *"How can I help"* group. Apart from the established groups within the village whose dedicated volunteers give of their time for the community we have also seen those who have taken the initiative to make things better.

- ✓ Poppies were made and used to decorate the war memorial and church entrance;
- ✓ Volunteers have got together to identify and help those less able and in need with meals;
- ✓ Volunteers who organised the pumpkin trail around the village for youngsters at Halloween;
- ✓ Those who are making angels and arranging the 'angel trail' for the Christmas period;
- ✓ Efforts are being made to get the Community Speed Watch Group going again to improve safety in the Village;
- ✓ Some of the younger members of the community are working with the Parish Council to improve the BMX track in the Jubilee Field;
- ✓ Local businesses/organisations have responded positively to the appeal to contribute towards the cost of the Christmas lights and I am sure our Clerk will list them elsewhere in the magazine;
- ✓ The volunteers who maintain the planters around the village and the Old Well Garden Centre has again provided a very generous discount on the plants.
- ✓ Residents who ensure that their hedges and garden plants do not encroach on and obstruct public footpaths/pavements.

Thank you all.

Sadly, we have a downside where I can best list the *"What's in it for me."* Individuals.

- The adult who has sued the Parish Council because he twisted his ankle in a very small pit jumping from children's play equipment which at least 100 children have jumped from every day without incident; [Remember the Parish Council is you and I – we all pay]
- The person responsible for dumping rubble in the cemetery which must be removed – again we all pay;
- The individuals who still persist in failing to pick up after their dogs have done their business. Is it really responsible behaviour to let your dog run free around the play areas after dark?
- Those who continue to park irresponsibly when dropping off or collecting children from the Primary school. Blocking drives and pavements, obstructing views on junctions and just outright breaking of the law by parking on the approaches to the crossing are just a few

of the examples. The comments on social media have been enlightening. The suggestion that we tarmac over half of the Jubilee Field to provide more parking rather than getting excited about 'putting up a few poles' really impressed me and my fellow Parish Councillors having worked very hard to raise funding to provide more play and fitness equipment for our community.

- Residents who remove leaves and other garden waste from their properties onto roadways, ditches and other public areas rather than take it to the composting site or use a MDDC brown bin.

The Gables site will show signs of activity with builders busy in the New Year. The Pre-school has taken a lease on the site to provide extra capacity for the pre-school and provide other community facilities, hopefully working with volunteers and groups within the community. Further information will now be coming from them rather than the Parish Council.

Work is progressing for the Parish to take on the lease for the Orchard Way open space and play area and hopefully improve the maintenance and facilities. We are also looking at replacing/updating the equipment in the fenced play area of the Jubilee Field over the next couple of years. Anyone with ideas as to what they would like to see in there are asked to pass them to our Clerk.

Contracts have been awarded for cutting the grass on the verges around the village and looking after the grass and hedges at the cemetery. Hopefully all will continue to be satisfactory but if not please let the Clerk know. Devon County Highways have given a modest increase in the amount they pay towards the cutting of the verges.

We have been advised that an appeal is to be made against the decision to refuse the application for 125 houses off Meadow Park but at the time of writing we have not been approached for comment by the Planning Inspectorate. The Inspector looking at the Local Plan Review appears to be happy with the allocation of land at J27 for development but he wishes to address the wording of the proposed policy and so we will not know what is happening until next year.

District Councillor Bob Evans has finally succeeded in persuading 2 Sisters to re-establish the liaison meetings. I recently accompanied him and County Councillor Ray Radford to a meeting with them and an Environment Agency Officer was also there. We were given a very comprehensive briefing on the workings of the site and it is surprising the number of employees and agency staff that work on the site which result in over a million birds a week being processed. The primary concern was the smells coming from the plant and actions being taken to stop them. Without going into too much detail it was noted that all reports to the Environment Agency are investigated and actioned and positive action has been taken as appropriate. One thing that was very clear from the meeting was that not all smells experienced in the village are the responsibility of 2 Sisters. Some smells have been clearly identified as coming

from the adjoining AD Plant. We all need to continue to report the bad smells to the Environment Agency if things are to improve. I also raised concerns as to parking on the road rather than use the car park, the lorries which park on the verges approaching the site whilst waiting to enter the site and also litter discarded between the site, through Sub Way Approach and by the bus stop at the Methodist Church.

It will soon be time to register your interest if you wish to stand for election as a District or Parish Councillor in the election on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019. Please think about it and if enough people come forward we can hopefully have an election rather than councillors being returned by default with no election. Do not rely on all your current councillors standing again next time so new blood is needed to represent our community. Please watch the Website and Facebook pages for the Parish as more details will be published. A very Happy and Prosperous New Year to you all. **Barry Warren Chair of the Parish Council**

### **WILLAND THEATRICAL SOCIETY (WiTS)**

The “Panto” season is with us again. During school half term in February we will be performing “Red Riding Hood” in the Village hall. The cast and crew are all working hard to put on a spectacular show, with traditional “Panto” Characters like the baddie who always enters stage left and the goodie who comes on from stage right and the traditional Dame who tries to keep us all in order.

A show filled with tongue in cheek jokes that always get a laugh and sometimes a groan. Songs, costumes, colour and typical silliness abounds. A great treat for all the family. Kids love it and secretly so do the Mums and Dads.

This year some of our junior members are taking more important roles, it's heart-warming to see the enthusiasm for the “Panto” being carried on by our younger members. Who knows one day they may be a star, although to us they already are. I feel privileged to be able to bring live theatre entertainment to the youngsters as an option to them being entertained by an LCD screen.

Performances will be on **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 7.30PM** and **Saturday matinee at 2.30PM** and again later **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> ay 7.30PM**. Look out for banners and posters around the village after Christmas. **Tickets can be purchased from The Post Office, and the Pharmacy, also online @[Ticketsource.co.uk/willandtheatricalsociety](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/willandtheatricalsociety)**. We look forward to seeing our fabulous audience who have supported us so brilliantly over the last six years since we formed the group. Put it in your diary, you won't regret it (Oh no you won't). **Sam Fincher**

### **EXCELSIOR DEVELOPMENT**

£2000 has been awarded to our club from the Post Code Community Trust. We applied in August to expand our weightlifting offering for teenagers in the Culm Valley. The sport of weight lifting is poorly represented in the South West, and our club is one of the few licenced in the Region. We are using the money to get another specialist bar for ladies/girls and also more disks. People often confuse weightlifting with “bodybuilding” exercises common in gyms using

machines and benches. Weightlifting is a fast moving sport requiring mobility, co-ordination and speed as well as strength. Four female lifters competed in Bristol in early December representing the club for the first time: Laura Turner, Helen Johnson, Cerys Head and Yasmin Rashid. Well done to them all.

We have vacancies in our gymnastics club for school years 1-5 and for our Freestyle/ Park our sessions from school years 6-11. All take place in the Village Hall on Tuesdays. Our end of term display was good fun, the tumbling especially has improved over the last 3 months. The front somersaults and flic flacs are great skills to practice. Side somersaults and back somersaults will be mastered by some of our regulars this term.

Thanks to Willand United Charities for donating £150 to the club to subsidise our club kit. This means that our members can get club t-shirts and tracksuits at a very affordable price.

Any person interested in joining our club and learning how to get fit safely by learning new skills in 2019 can contact **James Marshall** at [james@excelsiorgroup.co.uk](mailto:james@excelsiorgroup.co.uk)

## **WILLAND SCHOOL**

Children at Willand School are happy and healthy; they are always ready to learn and are up for a challenge.

### **KS1**

Reception like playing in their role play area which changes regularly, and love learning with their teachers. They like racing each other on the bicycles and playing in the sand. They like playing puppet shows as well.

Year 1 love running around and doing warm-ups in their PE lessons, they also enjoy testing their brains in maths when they identified numbered boxes and have fun in art by creating portraits.

Year 2 like doing maths bullets by answering lots of different questions and writing lots of stories in English lessons.

### **Lower KS2**

Year 3 like getting creative in art by drawing self-portraits and portraits of their friends. The year 3 children also enjoy doing science at the moment they are learning about the human body. In maths they are learning about telling the time.

### **Year 4**

Year 4 have been learning about Egyptians they had an Egyptian day where they dressed up - they all looked very good! They really enjoy swimming and English because they learn to write stories. They also enjoy P.E. and science.

**Upper KS2** Year 5 enjoy sketching in art. In History they enjoy finding information about the Vikings. They have been on two visits they went to the cinema to watch Early Man. They have also been to a planetarium Space Odyssey, to learn about black holes.

Year 6 enjoy English as they are writing the saga of Biorn which links in to their history topic of Vikings. They enjoy science because they are learning

about evolution and inheritance. They really enjoyed Design and Technology because they have made salads.

**By Lilly W, Jess, Evie and Lily M**

## **ST MARY'S WILLAND**

As we enter a new year, I am pleased to be able to tell you about some developments in our church. Thanks to the generosity of the community, our congregation and local grant bodies we have reached our fundraising goal and the restoration work has begun. Thank you so much to all those who helped with our fundraising or attended one of our events - it is very much appreciated.

The church will be a hive of activity until March when they are scheduled to complete the works. Whilst there shouldn't be disruption to our services, there may be sometimes during the week it isn't possible to go into the building.

I am also delighted to be able to tell you that from July we will have a new member of our team. Gudrun Thomas will be joining us as a curate-in-training. This will be Gudrun's first post as a "vicar in training" so she will be working alongside me for 3 to 4 years as a member of our team. Gudrun was previously a primary school teacher in Alphington, is married to Darryl and has two teenage sons. Gudrun and family will be living in the Uffculme vicarage from the summer.

Alongside this normal life obviously keeps going! We meet in church at 10.15am on the first Sunday of the month, and the other weeks in the church hall at 9.30am or a more traditional service at 11am in church. Everyone is welcome to join us, whether you have a faith or aren't quite sure what you believe.

Over Christmas we were reflecting on how Jesus was called Emmanuel which means "God with us." I hope that in this new year you will know the reality and reassurance of accepting God's presence with us - whatever the new year brings. **Rev Simon Talbot Rector, St Mary's Willand 01884 562570**  
**simon@thetalbots.org.uk**

## **WILLAND ROVERS ROAD TO WEMBLEY IS STILL OPEN**

As the New Year arrives Willand are into the 4<sup>th</sup> round of the FA Vase 5 games away from Wembley. Have beaten the stars of the Peninsula League in the shape of Tavistock and Bodmin. We now face the Wessex league side Hamworthy United from Poole on the 5<sup>th</sup> January. Please come down and support your local team, remember kids are only £1.

At the time of writing we sit third in the Western league with one defeat in the first 14 games. Even now the wet weather has arrived we continue to play exciting football.

The squad has been enhanced by the return of local boy Dean Stamp. The prolific striker has scored 126 goals in 150 games since leaving us. He started his second Willand career with a sublime right foot volley, but his left foot is even better. Veteran David Steele who has scored in each year for the past 19 years got one against Bradford Town taking his goal tally to 149. I am sure his 150<sup>th</sup> will be very special.

We have been successful in obtaining funding for some more ground work, the plan is to complete during the current season the pitch in fill thus ticking another box in the list of things needed to be done to ensure we could be promoted.

As mentioned previously we are more than a football club, we have held a number of events all of which have been a great success and lots of fun. The MS Heating sponsored Santa Run raised over £800 thanks to everyone who was involved. On the **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> January** we are holding a 90s night tickets can be purchased in advance and are available from **Sonia on 07793942695**. **Don't** forget that the bingo will continue after Christmas on a Tuesday night, it's a great event and becoming more supported each fortnight. **Dominic Clark**

## **WHAT'S ON AT COLDHARBOUR MILL THIS WINTER**

**Tuesday 1st January 2019** – don't miss the traditional **New Years Day Steam Day**, with guided tours and entertainments for all the family. Braziers Café will be open. Free car park.

**The Mill Shop** will be open from 1<sup>st</sup> January.

**The Mill Museum** and the **Brazier Café** will reopen on **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February**.

**Pre-booked groups, coach parties and schools** are welcome for guided visits of the museum throughout the winter as usual. Please contact the Mill office for info or to make a booking.

In 2019, the Museum will be open 7 days a week during school holidays, and 6 days a week (closed Mondays) during term time. **Watch out for posters about the February half-term Steam day!** **Pre-booked groups, coach parties and schools** are welcome for guided visits of the museum throughout the winter as usual. Please contact the Mill office for info or to make a booking.

**The 'Spring Lambs' craft club** for under 8s and over 55s runs every Tuesday 10-11am. Taking part is FREE (it's a community well-being project funded by the Postcode Lottery) so come along and have fun together! To join this lively group, please contact Hayley or Sara at the Mill in advance by email at [learning@coldharbourmill.org.uk](mailto:learning@coldharbourmill.org.uk) or by phone on 01884 840960 (*please leave your name and phone number if no-one is available to take your call*).

Transport can be provided for over 55s by prior arrangement. Children must be accompanied by a parent or carer.

**Volunteers** are always welcome at this unique heritage site.

There is a wide range of opportunities available, from maintenance to office work, and factory production to shop work – just let us know what you're good at or would like to learn about, and we'll find something to suit you! **For more info, please visit the Mill website: [www.coldharbourmill.org.uk](http://www.coldharbourmill.org.uk), or email the Mill office at [info@coldharbourmill.org.uk](mailto:info@coldharbourmill.org.uk) or phone 01884 840960.**

## **BLACKDOWN HILLS REPAIR CAFÉ**

A vacuum cleaner was amongst the 19 electrical items brought into the Blackdown Hills Repair Café recently which, apparently, hadn't been working properly for some time. On close inspection, one of our five electrical

volunteers was able to pinpoint the problem – the dustbag was blocked! So it's not always a major problem that confronts our electrical team, sometimes it can be a simple one which could, perhaps, save an item from being discarded to landfill as "broken".

Our team of 36 volunteer repairers now includes a clock and watch specialist who was kept pretty busy at his first event. Another new feature was our table of unwanted tools. One of our tool repairers had been given a couple of boxes of them only days beforehand, and we put them on show for people to help themselves, for a small donation. So, if you have any unwanted tools, please let us know – we can collect them in advance, ensure they are "roadworthy" and offer them at our next Repair Café.

And a group of the seamstresses (no seamsters, yet!) are "plotting" to introduce a re-purposing/upcycling section where items which have passed their sell-by date for their original use can be given a new lease of life as something else. For example, part of an old tent was turned into a waterproof dog jacket! All ideas – and materials – gratefully received, so let's get creative.....

Bacon butties will again be joining the array of delicious home-made cakes and scones at our next Repair Café on Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2019, from 10am – 12 noon-ish, at Hemyock Parish Hall, so do pop in, if not with something that needs fixing then just to find out more about how the Repair Café works.....and for a spot of breakfast! For more information, please contact [trishacomrie@gmail.com](mailto:trishacomrie@gmail.com), or **01823 602 908** or find us on **Facebook at RepairCafeBlackdowns**.

## **WILLAND HISTORY GROUP**

Happy New Year to you all from everyone at Willand History Group! First of all, we have been contacted by someone asking for information about The Gables during the 1950s and 1960s, after the house became a children's home. We know that The Gables was sold to Devon County Council in 1951/52 and was initially a home for boys, first under the supervision of Mr and Mrs Trotman, followed by Mr and Mrs Willatt, then Mr and Mrs Southwood, before Paul and Pauline Hurring became house-parents in September 1976. Otherwise we know very little – we would love to hear from you if you can add any more information or have any memories of The Gables' early days as a children's home?

Recently we were going through copies of the *Devon & Somerset Weekly News* for January and February 1979 and we found many articles and adverts relating to Willand that give a nostalgic snapshot of Willand 40 years ago. For example, adverts remind us of when Mole Valley Farmers was on South View Road, when Salter's Stores was on Station Road, or when Ros and Michael Maunder were in the Post Office. At that time Verbeer Manor was a popular night spot: one event was the 'Old English Hunters Supper', being a four course meal (main course of 'roast pheasant cooked in rich red wine sauce', garnished with lean

bacon, with braised leaks, garden peas and baked jacket potato) all for £4.75 plus VAT – followed by a late bar and dancing till 1am.

The Willand branch of the Women's Institute was a thriving concern in 1979, with their secretary, Betty Penberthy noting at their monthly meeting in January how the year's activities were "considerable and varied". Mrs Penberthy had clearly been showing her vocab skills, as she was one of those through to the next round of the scrabble competition. At that WI meeting, George and Gladys Godfrey put on a slide show of the Willand Square Dancer's recent trip to Westervesde in Germany. In a vote of thanks, Mrs Parish emphasised how the Godfreys had done so much to help young people in the village over the years. We also found a report of Willand Rovers' 3-1 victory over Tiverton Town Reserves a 'fiery' match 'played in the Willand mud', with one goal from Rob Hawkins, and two from Martin Gee. And in the *Devon & Somerset News* on 23 January there is a photo of newly wed Elaine Jarrett and Charles Lane after their marriage at Willand Parish Church.

Plans to develop the local transport network in 1979 proved controversial, after Mid Devon County Council voted to support British Rail's proposed park-and-ride railway station in Sampford Peverall – near to Junction 27 – instead of redeveloping the existing mainline station at Tiverton Junction in Willand. Bob Salter, of Willand Parish Council (WPC), said the decision "will have caused dismay, if not consternation" amongst Willand's residents. He feared that "Tiverton Junction Station would become dormant and neglected, to become one more white elephant on the property list of British Rail." In defence of the Willand station WPC chairperson, Gladys Godfrey, stated: "We are going to make a fight for it and that is that." Such defiance proved futile against the weight of opinion, and Willand would ultimately lose its railway station. Rather than being allowed to fade away, Tiverton Junction was closed seven years later, on 11 May 1986, one day before the official opening of Tiverton Parkway Railway Station. **James Morrison, 01884 250057**  
**jamorrison235@gmail.com**

## **FROM COUNCILLOR BOB EVANS**

As I began to write this article for the first publication of the new year, I started to think about time, so I looked up its definition.

### **Time, the indefinite continued progress of existence and events in the past, present, and future regarded as a whole.**

Wow, glad I looked! My reason? Well bit of a mixture, today is the 3rd of December so I'm looking forward to the Christmas period, family get togethers, holidays, presents for our grandchildren with all the wide-eyed excitement that brings, and that's just grandad! then we have a new year and the traditions of looking forward, making plans and so it goes.

### **The past**

I start by looking back over the past year and the article I wrote this time in 2017, it had details of the 259 house appeal, details of applications for 30 and

28 houses, all with warnings of how such volumes have far reaching impacts within the structures of village life.

The site of 259 having been lost at appeal then came back for 125 and having been refused by planning committee is now awaiting an inspectors ruling, the 30 lost at appeal and the 28 are under construction, so I guess you could say you win some you lose some? or can you?

When is a victory not a victory? Well seemingly if a developer has any opportunity to come back and simply try again.

The site for 259 has been resubmitted in a call for sites under the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan, I suggest if you have 10 minutes to spare you look at the GESP web site, makes interesting reading.

As I type MDDC continue to suffer from developers seeking permissions on land that is not in the local plan, yet with no 5 year land supply defence is difficult and complex, the local plan has yet to be fully heard and still doesn't have a date for the final hearings, although mid February is likely, surely as you read this, this will have been confirmed ?

Yet there is a ray of hope as detailed in an extract from an MDDC planning officers note this week.

The Council keeps it's 5-year housing land supply under review and this includes taking account of the Government's updated guidance on housing need assessment issued in September 2018, and the Housing Delivery Test. The Secretary of State is expected to publish imminently the annual Housing Delivery Test results. We expect these results to confirm our review. At the moment it appears that there will be a material change in the housing land supply for Mid Devon as a result. For some applications, the absence of a demonstrable 5-year housing land supply is a material consideration with significant implications.

What this means is that it's possible that as you read this MDDC will be deemed to have satisfied all the necessary tests and even without the local plan being adopted will be deemed to have a 5 year land supply, that's definitely on my Christmas list!

### **The present**

I'm pleased to report that an initial liaison meeting took place with two sisters on 26th November. The meeting was attended by me, Ray Radford your Devon County Councillor, Cllr Barry Warren the chair of the Parish Council and Mary Rees from the Environment agency (E.A.) and four managers from site.

The meeting was positive and polite, and 2 Sisters made an excellent presentation and shared details of their current plans to reduce/eliminate odours and noise from the site, their plans are detailed and have been influenced by the E.A.

Yet ....

I have heard much of this previously and so I have taken the precaution of registering a formal case with our local MP Mr Neil Parish, attending his local surgery and detailing past failings with a request for his intervention if needed, you may recall the “ chicken on the floor and date tampering “ issues 2 Sisters suffered (not in Willand) that resulted in their owners facing a parliamentary commons enquiry? You may also recall that enquiry was chaired by Mr Parish!

The next meeting isn't until March as I want to see if any of the actions required have had an effect or indeed have been completed, you can be assured the actions V plan will be examined in some detail.

***Any continued issues please to report to the E.A. on 0800807060.***

## **The Future**

I'm sure 2019 will bring many more challenges not only to the council but all of our communities and yes, I'm afraid it is an election year for all district councillors here in mid Devon.

So, with that in mind I have two final things to add, firstly would you or do you know somebody who may like to apply to be a district councillor? If so, please see the MDDC web site for details of how to apply and some tips on what's involved, if you prefer, I'm more than happy to chat this through with any possible candidates, my contact details are on the MDDC web pages.

Secondly some of you may have noticed myself and my fellow councillors have started to come round not just with a leaflet but with a short survey, this can be completed on the day and we pop back to pick it up or there are details on how to fill it in on line, this provides a popular alternative for many who find the survey on the mat when returning home.

Why a survey?

Two things really, firstly we are seeking your views on a number of levels, National issues, these are collated and fed back to Neil Parish MP , county issues such as roads , traffic, speeding etc, these go back to Cllr Radford as the Devon County Councillor and District Council issues, refuse collections, recycling, street scene, ie rubbish bins, dog fouling (although I have to say that's an owners responsibility not one that should be left to council employees to pick up !)

Secondly of course we are looking to understand where our support is , along with asking if you want a postal vote, we have picked up many surveys were people ask to be registered for a postal vote and we do this if you tick the box and NO you do NOT have to be a conservative for us to do this if you ask !

Finally although by the time you read this we will be part way into 2019, may I wish you all a happy new year, let's hope there are more positives than negatives and let's try and keep an eye out for those within our communities that may need a friendly smile or even just an hello to brighten their day, loneliness can be a terrible thing and so easily prevented and the best

thing.....saying hello and keeping an eye on somebody to make sure they are OK .....is Free !!

Please remember we are here to represent all members of our communities so please do contact us with any issues you feel we can assist with.

As ever my contact details are below and all three of your district councillors' details can be found in the MDDC web pages. Bob Evans 01884 849248

**revans@middevon.gov.uk**

## **HOSPISCARE**

Hospiscare will be holding their popular Men's Walk event on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2019. The eight mile walk, taking in the picturesque Exe Valley, will start and finish at The Double Locks Pub with refreshments along the way. Walkers will be met at the pub with a free pint and pasty and have the opportunity to watch the Six Nations England v Scotland match on LED screens in the Hospiscare Six Nations Bar, along with other matches that day.

The 2018 Men's Walk event was a sell-out, so Hospiscare are encouraging Grandads, Dads, brothers, sons to sign up ASAP at

**[www.hospiscare.co.uk/events/flagship/men-s-walk/enternow](http://www.hospiscare.co.uk/events/flagship/men-s-walk/enternow)**. Individual entry is £25, or a team of four can sign up for just £80.

On the day, the registration desk will be open from 12:30pm – 2:00pm, and marshals will be in place ready for the walk to start at 1:15pm. Hospiscare also welcomes support from (male or female) volunteers. Please call 01392 688020 for further information.

## **CAMEO**

At our November meeting we welcomed the Cullompton Flat Bell Ringers, we had never heard them before and several members had a go and we really enjoyed humming along to their music. We were busy with final preparations for our Coffee Morning on 15th December in aid of the Devon Freewheelers. We enjoyed a shopping trip to Clarks Village and another to Darts Farm and Topsham. The Walking Group had been out and about enjoying the beautiful Autumn colours. They walked along the Canal and had tea at the Old Well. Another sunny Saturday saw them at Knightshayes, where their four-legged member gave them all a scare by going AWOL but luckily, he turned up later. They had a lovely, muddy walk from Killerton to Columb St. John but the colours made up for the mud. A well-attended Coffee Morning was at the Little Bakery in Cullompton. The December meeting was our Christmas dinner at the Bowd Inn near Sidmouth which was most enjoyable with delicious food, good service and a Secret Santa. Eating again! This time to Petroc College for Christmas lunch cooked and served by the students. The Singles had a Christmas afternoon tea party at Wyn's with mince pies, luxury biscuits and Christmas cake followed by a Christmas quiz and bingo and crackers. Cameo members certainly know how to party. We are celebrating our 20th anniversary in January with a 'bring and share' supper followed by line dancing. The Singles group are

off to the Halfway House at the end of January for their New Year's lunch. We wonder how much actual line dancing will take place with all this food we are having. Cameo members would like to thank you all for supporting our charity events and we wish you all a Happy and Peaceful New Year. **Betty Penberthy**

### **ROYAL BRITISH LEGION – POPPY APPEAL**

This year's poppy appeal raised an amazing £2,148.02. This was my 10<sup>th</sup> and final year as the poppy coordinator and I would like to take this opportunity to say a big Thank you to all the fantastic supporters of this cause, who have supported me during my time with the organisation.

Firstly, thank you to all the dedicated door to door collectors, who have battled the rain and cold, whilst knocking on everyone's doors, collecting money.

To all the generous residents of Willand who have donated over the years and their kind words and support which help us to keep going, when we are cold, wet and tired.

To the businesses who allow us to leave the poppies and collecting tins and especially to the Halfway House in Willand, who also kept and supplied the wrist bands and enamel pins every year, since I have been involved with this cause.

This year I want to thank Pat Russell for knitting all the brilliant poppies, which the Post Office kindly sold for us. I also want to thank Sue Leach and all her helpers, for decorating Willand and making it look beautiful with all the poppies.

I lastly want to thank all my friends and family, who have always helped and supported me, especially my parents, who always let me take over their dining room and store all the boxes and stock and spend ages, putting the boxes together and then taking them all apart again for me, when we have finished.

It has been an absolute privilege to coordinate this event over the last 10 years and I have met so many lovely people during my time with the appeal. I have had a few enquiries from different people taking over from me next year and will let everyone know when this is finalised.

Thank you again for all your support. **Mrs Claire Davey**

### **THANK YOU**

Now that Clare has decided to step down as the RBL organizer for Willand. Can I, and I am sure I speak for many others, say a great big thank you to Clare and to her gallant family of helpers. These things don't just happen, their months of hard work in the preparation and the organization of the collections has resulted in a significant annual contribution by the people of this very special village to the RBL Appeal. With Clare's departure clearly there is now a need for a new volunteer to continue the many years of dedication and hard work by many, which will ensure Willand's continued support. We should never ever forget those who made the ultimate sacrifice, that allows us to enjoy the freedoms of today.

**Eddie Dennis**

## WILLAND COMMUNITY COMPOSTING SCHEME OPENING TIMES

**Wednesdays and Sundays - 10.00 am - 12 Noon CLOSED** FROM 12 noon - Wednesday 19th December 2018 **REOPEN** FROM 10.00am Wednesday 2nd January 2019. Christmas trees without decoration accepted as long as the branches are no bigger than 2" in diameter. **Tony Mander Mob.09780472242 Email: tmander931gmail.com**

## LIVING WITH DEMENTIA?

Date for your diary **Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019** 2pm to 4pm in Willand Village Hall. If you are affected by dementia as a principal, family member or carer this could be of interest to you as a break from your normal routine of the day. It will be **free** but as numbers must be limited **you will need to book** your places and it will be on a first come first served basis.

A trio of professional musicians from the famous Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra are coming to Willand and in conjunction with the Parish Council, helped by volunteers, are going to host a **Cake Concert**. There will be two hours of classical and light music and conversation accompanied by cups of tea/coffee with nice slices of cake. **Book your place** with the Parish Clerk, Kate Taylor.

## WILLAND VILLAGE HALL

Thank you to our caretaker and some of her friends who have put up the decorations in the Hall. It is looking quite festive.

We had an unfortunate incident in November, when a teenage party got out of hand and caused damage and a lot of mess. To avoid this happening again, the trustees will be visiting any similar bookings to check everything is in order and will have the authority to close the event if it is not.

We will be getting some new stage curtains in the near future. Thank you to WiTS for funding half the cost. The present ones have been up for many years and are showing signs of wear. The annexe refurbishment is still awaiting more quotes. It will be quite a large job, as all the plumbing needs to be changed, toilets remodelled, and kitchen fitted properly.

Now that the cold weather is here, please help us to conserve heat by keeping the outside doors closed when you are using the hall.

Please visit our website, [www.willandvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.willandvillagehall.org.uk), to check availability for hire and to download booking forms. Booking email [bookings@willandvillagehall.org.uk](mailto:bookings@willandvillagehall.org.uk). **Carol Allan Village Hall Treasurer**

## VILLAGE HALL DIARY

<b>January</b>			
Friday	11 <sup>th</sup>	Blood Donor Session	12.00 pm
<b>February</b>			
Friday	1 <sup>st</sup>	Blood Donor Session	12.00 pm
Friday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Panto -Red Riding Hood	7.00 pm
Saturday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Panto -Red Riding Hood	2.00pm
Saturday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Panto -Red Riding Hood	7.00 pm

## REGULAR EVENTS AT WILLAND VILLAGE HALL

Pilates	Mondays	10:00 am
Purelesque Knitting Group	Mondays	2:00 pm
Cull. & Dist. Flower Club	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday	2:00 pm
Beavers (Term Time)	Mondays	5:30 pm
Cub Scouts (Term Time)	Mondays	7:00 pm
Kettle Bell Pump	Mondays	7:00 pm
Pilates	Tuesday	9:00 am
Flower Arranging (Sept-Mar)	Tuesday	1:15 pm
Use it or Lose it	Tuesday	2.00 pm
Gymnastics Club	Tuesday	4:00 pm
Pilates	Tuesday	7.45 pm
Tiny Tots (Term Time)	Wednesday	9:30 am
Flower Arranging (Sept-March)	Wednesday	1:15 pm
Indoor Bowls Club	Wednesday	7:00 pm
Garden Club	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday	7:30 pm
Pilates	Thursday	8.15 am
CAMEO	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday	7.00 pm
Karate	Thursday	5:30 pm
Folk Dance Club	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday	7:30 pm
Parish Council Meetings	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday	7:00 pm
Zumba	Fridays	9.30am
WiTS Sept-Feb	Fridays	7:00 pm
Cowgirl Twisters	3rd Saturday	7:30 pm
Folk Dance	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday	7:00 pm
Rugby Tots	Sundays	9:30 am
Martial Arts	Sundays	6:30 pm

**THE DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT MAGAZINE IS WEDNESDAY**

**13 FEBRUARY 2019**